

51.0.363. A
COLLECTION
OF
VOYAGES.

VOL. II.

CONTAINING

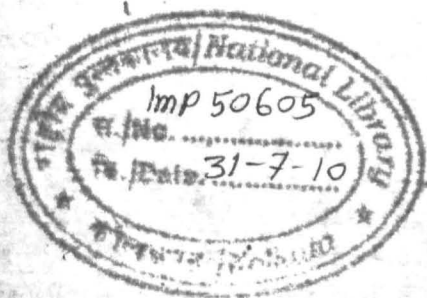
- I. A SUPPLEMENT to the VOYAGE round the WORLD: Describing the Countries of *Tonquin*, *Achin*, *Malacca*, &c. their Product, Inhabitants, Manners, Trade, Policy, &c.
- II. Two VOYAGES to *Campeachy*; with a Description of the Coasts, Product, Inhabitants, Logwood-Cutting, Trade, &c. of *Yucatan*, *Campeachy*, *New-Spain*, &c. !
- III. A DISCOURSE of Trade-winds, Breezes, Storms, Seasons of the Year, Tides and Currents of the *Torrid Zone* throughout the WORLD: With an Account of *Natal* in *Africk*, its Product, Negroes, &c.

By Capt. WILLIAM DAMPIER.

Illustrated with MAPS and DRAUGHTS.

L O N D O N :

Printed for JAMES and JOHN KNAPTON, at the Crown in St. Paul's Church-Yard. MDC CXXIX.





To the Right HONOURABLE

E D W A R D

Earl of *ORFORD*, Viscount *Barfleur*,
Baron of *Shingey*, Principal Lord of the
Admiralty, Treasurer of His Majesty's Navy,
&c. and one of His Majesty's most Ho-
nourable Privy Council.

MY LORD,



*I S in Acknowledgment of the Fa-
vours your Lordship has conferr'd
upon me, that I presume to place
your Name before these Papers. The
Honourable Person to whom I dedicated my
former Volume could not have taken a more a-
greeable way to befriend me, than by recom-
mending me to your Patronage; and I shall
always retain a grateful sense of it: And your
Lordship has been pleas'd to prefer me in a way
suitable to my Genius and Experiences; and
wherein therefore, if in any way, I may be
able to do something toward the preserving the
good Opinion you have been pleas'd to entertain
of me. 'Tis a further Satisfaction to me, that*

DEDICATION.

my Employment is of such a Nature as does not alienate me from your Lordship's more peculiar Jurisdiction, but places me more immediately under it, and chiefly accountable to your self. Whatever parts of the World I shall range into, I shall carry this Comfort along with me, that next under the Providence of God, and his Majesty's Protection, I shall be so long as I am upon the Seas, in the Province, and under the Direction of your Lordship and the Honourable Board: For whose Favours to me in general I have no better way of Expressing my Gratitude, than by doing it thus to your Lordship, who presides there. And with these Sentiments, I am bold to subscribe my self,

My LORD,

Your Lordship's most Faithful,

and Devoted Humble Servant,

WILLIAM DAMPIER.

T H E

T H E

P R E F A C E.



N the Preface to my former Volume, I have accounted for the Design, and Method, and Stile of those Relations of my Travels. What I have more to say of that kind, is chiefly with reference to what I now offer the Reader. Thus far I have thought fit to change my Method in this Volume, as to divide it into distinct Parts, because the Matters it treats of are so different from one another, in point of Time, or other Circumstances: But still in each Part I have taken the same Course of making several Chapters, that this Volume might retain some Uniformity with the other.

The First of these is that Account I promised of my Voyages from *Achin* in *Sumatra*, to several Places in the *E. Indies*; of which I forbore to particularize in the former Volume, for Reasons there mentioned. I have now more than discharged my self of that Promise: For I have improved my own Observations, especially as to *Tonquin*, by those of some *English* Gentlemen, who made a considerable stay in that Kingdom. I am abundantly satisfied my Self of their Ability and Integrity; the proper Qualifications in things of this Nature: And could I have obtained their leave, the Reader also should have had the Satisfaction of knowing to whom he was to ascribe several of those Particulars: However, I have taken frequent Occasions to distinguish in general what I saw, from what I was informed of. This part is the Supplement of what is contained in the former Volume; and compleats the *Voyage round the World*.

The Second Part contains what relates to the Time I spent in the Bay of *Campeachy*, either as a Logwood-Cutter, or a Trader to them. This was before I made my Voyage round the World, as the Reader will perceive: And upon this Occasion, therefore, I have gone so far back, as to speak of my first entrance upon this Rambling kind of Life. For the Account it gives of *Campeachy*, and the Neighbouring parts of *Yucatan* and *New Spain*, &c. I refer the Reader to the Work it self.

The

The P R E F A C E.

The *Third Part* is an Account of the Winds, and Weather, Storms, Tides, and Currents of the *Torrid Zone*, round the World; which may be of Use towards the Improvement of *Navigation*, and that part of *Natural History*. 'Tis the substance of what I have remark'd or learnt, about things of that Kind, in so long a course of Roving upon the Seas: And tho' I have not omitted to speak of these Matters in the series of my Voyages, as occasion offered; yet I thought it might not be unacceptable, to put them together in one View also by themselves, in a Methodical Discourse, ranging the several Particulars under their proper Heads.

To render these things the more intelligible, I have prefixed peculiar *Maps*: One to each of the foregoing Parts; but two to this of the Winds, &c. that the Variety of Trade-Winds might some way be pictured, as it were, to the Eye; and the Reader might be the less liable to be confounded with the Multiplicity of Words, denoting the several Points of the Compass, or other Terms necessary to the Descriptive part of the Discourse. These Maps contain the *Torrid Zone*, and so much towards each Pole as was of Use to my Design: And the Projection differs in this only from the Common Maps, that in order to shew the *Atlantick* and *South* Oceans each in one entire view, the Division of the Hemispheres is made, not at the first Meridian, (reckoning from *Teneriffe*;) nor at the 350th, as is usual also, and as 'tis in the Globe-Map, prefixed to my first Volume, but at the 300th; yet still retaining the common Graduation in the *Equator*, from that customary Meridian of the *Canaries*, or *C. Verd.*

And upon this mention of the *Atlantick* Sea, there is one thing I would observe to the Reader, that I use that name not only for the *North-Sea*, as 'tis called, but for this whole Ocean, on both sides of the *Equator* between *Europe* and *Africk* on one hand, and *America* on the other. If I be questioned for taking this Liberty, I should think it enough to say, that I wanted a general name for this whole Ocean, and I could not find one more proper. And yet even as to the Reason of the thing, if the Discovery of a Sea to the *South* of the *Isthmus* of *Darien*, or the *Mexican Coast*, were ground sufficient for the extending the Name of the *South-Sea* to all that largest Ocean of the World, tho' it lies West rather of the whole Continent of *America*; much more may I be allowed a less considerable Enlargement of the Name of *Atlantick* Sea, which others have long since extended to so great a Part of this Ocean, from its Original narrow Confines, the Neighbourhood of Mount *Atlas*, and the Coasts of *Mauritania*. I know that so much of this Ocean as lies South of the *R. Niger*, went usually by the Name of the *Æthiopic* Sea: Yet I can't learn a sufficient Reason for it: For tho' 'tis true, that the Ancients called all the *South* Parts of *Africk* to each Sea, *Æthiopia*, yet even upon this bottom, the Name of *Æthiopic* Sea should have been left common to the Oceans on each side of the Cape of *Good Hope*. But if the Name must be appropriated, why to this on the West of *Africa*? why not rather to that on its E. Coast? which lies nearer the *Inward* or more proper *Æthiopia*, now the

The P R E F A C E.

the *Abissine* Empire? and consequently might better be called *Æthiopic* Sea. Accordingly I have ventured to call it so, *Vol. I. Page 289* making it there the same as the *Indian*; which I also make to be all the Ocean from the East Coast of *Africa* to the remotest of the *East-India* Islands, *New-Holland*, and *New-Guinea*: Tho' this Name also of *Indian-Sea* has been understood, usually of narrower bounds. But be that as it will, I was for using comprehensive Names; and therefore these three Names of *Atlantic*, *Indian*, and *South-Seas*, or Oceans, serve me for the whole Ambit of the *Torrid Zone*, and what else I have occasion to speak of.

To these three Parts is added a General *Index* of both *Volumes*. The first Volume should not have been published without one, but that was reserv'd to be annexed to this; that the *Reader* might not have the Trouble of turning over 2 Alphabets.

Thus what I designed as an Appendix to the former *Volume*, is grown to its self answerable to the other. And I am sensible there is one part of the intended *Appendix* yet behind, *viz.* the Description of the *South-Sea* Coasts of *America*, from the *Spanish* Pilot-Book, &c. I confess I had thoughts of crowding it into this Volume: But besides the dryness and fatigue of such a Work, and the small leisure I had for it, I was quite discouraged from attempting it, when upon a nearer View of the matter I found in those Descriptions and Charts a repugnance with each other in many particulars; and some things which from my own Experience I knew to be erroneous. Indeed as they are, they may be very useful to Sailors in those Parts, being generally right enough in the main: But I was loth to undertake a Work, much of which must have consisted in correcting Mistakes, and yet have left unavoidably many more to be rectified. Others may have Time and Helps for this Affair; and future Discoveries may give greater Light to direct them. To me it shall suffice, that bating this one particular, I have here endeavoured to perform what I had made the Publick expect from me.

. T H E

The CONTENTS.

PART I.

The Supplement of the Voyage round the World.

- CHAP. 1. *The Author's Voyage from Achin to Malacca and Tonquin.*
2. *The Natural State of Tonquin.*
3. *Of the Natives, their Customs, Religion, Trade, &c.*
4. *Of the Government, Kings, Soldiery, and Mandarins.*
5. *Voyage to Tenan. The A's Journey by Land to Cachao, and Occurrences.*
6. *His return from Tonquin, with some particulars of Cambodia, and Bencouli, and Arrival at Malacca and Achin.*
7. *Achin described; its Natural and Political State, Customs, Trade, Civil War, &c.*
8. *His Voyage to Malacca again: Malacca described.*
9. *His Return to Achin; Voyage to Fort St. George, and thence to Bencouli: Bencouli described.*

PART II.

The Campeachy Voyages.

- CHAP. I. *The A's First Voyage to Campeachy, and Return. Jucatan, Alcranes, and I. of Pines describ'd.*
2. *His Second Voyage. The E. Coast of Campeachy describ'd; its Vegetables, Weather, Animals, &c.*
3. *Logwood Cutting, Beef-hunting, and Occurrences.*
4. *The W. Coast of Campeachy described, its Mountain-Cow, Indians, &c.*
5. *The Coast further W. and products of Campeachy and New-Spain described. The A's return to England.*

PART III.

A Discourse of Winds, Storms, Seasons, Tides, and Currents in the Torrid Zone.

- CHAP. I. *Of the True or General Trade-Wind at Sea, Crossing the Line, &c.*
2. *Of the Coasting and constant Trade Winds.*
3. *Of the shifting Trade-Winds, and Monsoons.*
4. *Of the ordinary Sea and Land-Breezes.*
5. *Of peculiar Breezes, and Winds of particular effects, Summa-senta Winds, Cartagena Breezes, Popogaios, Tereno's, and Harmatans.*
6. *Of Storms, Norths, Souths, Hurricanes, Tuffoons, stormy Monsoons and Elephantas.*
7. *Of the Seasons of the Year, Weather, Rains, and Tornado's.*
8. *Of Tides and Currents. Natal described; its Product, Negroes, &c.*

Mr. DAMPIER's VOYAGES.

VOL. II.

PART. I.

His VOYAGE from Achin in Sumatra, to Tonquin, and other Places in the East-Indies.

CHAP. I.

The Connexion of this Discourse with the Voyage round the World. The Author's Departure from Achin in the Isle of Sumatra with Captain Weldon. Their Course along the Streights of Malacca. Pulo Nuttee, and other Islands. The R. and Kingdom of Jihore. Pulo Oro, and Pulo Timaon: Green Turtle there. Pulo Condore. Shoals of Pracel, River of Cambodi, Coast of Champa, Pulo Canton. Cochinchinese, Pulo Champello, R. and City of Quinam. Oil of Porpusses and Turtle. Shipwrackt Men detained usually at Cochinchina

VOL. II. B and

An. 1688

and Pegu. Aguala Wood from the Bay of Siam. Bay of Tonquin. I. of Aynam, and other Islands. Rokbo one Mouth of the chief R. of Tonquin. Fishers I. River of Domca, the other Mouth. Its Bar and Entrance. Mountain Elephant. Pearl-Islands. Pilots of Batsha. They go up the River of Domca. Domca and its Gardens, and Dutch there. They leave their Ships at Anchor above it, where the Natives build a Town. They go up to the chief City in the Country Boats. The River and the Country about it. Leprous Beggars. Hean, a Town of note; Chinese there. The Governour, Shipping and Tide. They arrive at Cachao, the Metropolis of Tonquin.

THE Reader will find upon perusing my Voyage round the World, that I then omitted to speak particularly of the Excursions I made to Tonquin, to Malacca, Fort St George, and Bencouli, from Achin in the Isle of Sumatra; together with the Description I intended to give of those Parts. I do but just mention them there; but shall now proceed to a more distinct Account of them.

And to keep to the Order of Time, the Reader may recollect, that my first Departure from Achin was to Tonquin, along with Captain Weldon, about July 1688. as I have said p. 505th of my former Volume. I have there related in a page or two before, to how weak a Condition my self and my Companions were brought, through the Fatigues of our Passage from Nicobar to Achin: yet did not my Weakness take me off from contriving some Employment or Expedition, whereby I might have a comfortable Subsistence. Captain Weldon touched

touched here, to sell the Slaves he had brought with him from *Fort St. George*; it being in his way to the Streights of *Malacca*, and so to *Tonquin*, whither he was bound. This afforded me the Opportunity of trying that Voyage, to which he kindly invited me, and to which I was the more encouraged because he had a good Surgeon in his Ship, whose Advice I needed: and my Friend Mr. *Hall* was particularly animated thereby; who had also resolved upon this Voyage, and was in a weaker Condition than my self. Besides, Capt. *Weldon* promised to buy a Sloop at *Tonquin*, of which he would make me Commander, to go a trading Voyage from thence to *Cochinchina*, *Champa*, *Cambodia*, or some others of the adjacent Countries: which Trade has been scarce, yet has been attempted by our Country-men, and there were Hopes it might turn to a good Account; but this Project came to nothing.

However, Captain *Weldon* having finished his Business at *Achin*, I set out thence with him thro' the Streights of *Malacca*, and we soon arrived at the Town of *Malacca*: of which Town and Country, I shall have a better Occasion to speak hereafter. Here we found the *Cæsar of London*, commanded by Captain *Wright*, who came from *Bombay*, and was bound to *China*. He stopt here to water and refresh, as is usual for Ships to do that pass these Streights. By him we were informed that three other *English* Ships had touched here, and were past on to the Eastward ten Days before. These 3 Ships came from *Fort St. George*, in Company with Captain *Weldon*: but his Business calling him to *Achin*, they in the mean Time prosecuting their Voyage, got the Start of us thus much. The *Cæsar* was soon ready to sail again, and went away the next Morning after our Arrival at *Malacca*.

An. 1688. Our Captain being a Stranger to the Bay of *Tonquin*, as were all his Ship's Company, he hired a *Dutch* Pilot at *Malacca*; and having finished his Business there, we set sail, two Days after the *Cæsar*. We were desirous to overtake these four Ships, and therefore crouded all the Sail we could make; having a strong westerly Wind, accompanied with many hard Gusts and Tornadoes: and the very next Day we got Sight of them; for they had not yet passed through a narrow Passage, called the Streights of *Sincapore*. We soon got up with them, and past through together; and sailing about three Leagues farther we anchored near an Island called *Pulo Nuttee*, belonging to the Kingdom of *Jihore*.

Here Captain *Weldon* took in Wood and Water, and some of the *Indian* Inhabitants came aboard us in their Canoes, of whom we bought a few Coconuts, Plantains, and fresh Fish. We staid here not above four and twenty Hours; for the other Ships had filled most of their Water at other Islands near this, before we came up with them: for tho' Ships do usually take in Water at *Malacca* Town, yet they do as frequently discharge it again at some of these Islands, and take in better.

We sailed the next Day, and kept near the *Malacca* Shore; and there passing by the Mouth of the River *Jihore*, we left many other Islands on our Starboard-side.

The River of *Jihore* runs by the City of that Name, which is the Seat of the little Kingdom of *Jihore*. This Kingdom lies on the Continent of *Malacca*, and consists of the extremity or doubling of that Promontory. It abounds with Pepper, and other good Commodities.

They are a *Mahometan* People, very warlike, and desirous of Trade. They delight much in Shipping and going to Sea, all the neighbouring
Islands

Islands in a Manner being Colonies of this Kingdom, and under its Government. They coast about in their own Shipping to several Parts of *Sumatra, Java, &c.* their Vessels are but small, yet very serviceable; and the *Dutch* buy up a great many of them at a small Price, and make good trading Sloops of them. But they first fit them up after their own Fashion, and put a Rudder to them, which the *Jiborians* don't use, tho' they are very good Seamen in their way; but they make their Vessels sharp at each End, though but one End is used as the Head; and instead of a Rudder, they have on each Side the Stern a Thing like a very broad Oar, one of which they let down into the Water at Pleasure, as there is Occasion to steer the Ship either to the one Side or the other, always letting down that which is to the Leeward. They have Proes of a particular Neatness and Curiosity. We call them Half-moon Proes, for they turn so much at each End from the Water, that they much resemble a Half-moon, with the Horns upwards. They are kept very clean, sail well, and are much used by them in their Wars. The People of *Jibore* have formerly endeavoured to get a Commerce with our Nation. For what Reason that Trade is neglected by us, I know not. The *Dutch* trade very much there; and have lately endeavoured to bring the King, who is very young, to their Bow.

At the farther End of the Straights of *Malacca*, among many other Islands, we sailed by those of *Pulo Oro*, and *Pulo Timaon*: which last is a place often touched at for Wood, Water, and other Refreshments, tho' we past by it. Among other things, there are great Plenty of excellent Green Turtle among these Islands.

Being at length got clear of the Islands into the wide Ocean, we steered away still together

An. 1688 till we came in sight of *Pulo Condore*, when having all brought to, and spoke with each other, we parted for our several Voyages. The *Caspar* and two others, that were bound to *Cbina*, steered away to the Eastward, keeping to the South of *Pulo Condore*; it being their best Course, thereby to avoid the large Shoals of *Pracel*. We and the *Saphire* of *Fort St George*, commanded by Captain *Lacy*, steered more Northerly; and leaving *Pulo Condore* on our Starboard, we hal'd in for the Continent, and fell in with it near the River of *Cambodia*. But leaving this also on our Starboard side, we coasted along to the Eastward, keeping near the *Champa* Shore, and coming to the Point of Land that bounds the S. W. part of the Bay of *Tonquin*, we doubled it, and coasting to the North; leaving *Champa* still on our Larboard side, and the dangerous Shoals of *Pracel* about 12 or 14 Leagues off on our Starboard side, we kept along fair by the Shore, just without *Pulo Canton*.

This Island lies in about 13 d. North. It is much frequented by the *Cochinchinese*, whose Country begins hereabouts, bordering on the Kingdom of *Champa*. They are most Fishermen that come hither, and their chief Business is to make Oyl of Porpusses; for these Fish are found in great Plenty here at some Seasons of the Year, and then the *Cochinchinese* resort hither to take them. The People that we found on *Pulo Condore*, mentioned in the 14th Chapter of my Voyage round the World, page 395, were of these *Cochinchinese*. The Turtle also which they catch, is chiefly in order to make Oyl of their Fat: And there is a great Store of Turtle on all this Coast.

We coasted yet farther on this Shore, till we came to the Islands of *Champello*. These may seem to have some Affinity to *Champa*, by the Sound of the Word, which one would take to be a

Por-

Portuguese diminutive of *Champa*; yet they lye on the *Cochinchina* Coast, and belong to it, tho' uninhabited. An. 1688.

They are 4 or 5 in Number, and lye 4 or 5 Leagues from the Shore. They are called *Champella de la Mar*, to distinguish them from others lying farther down in the Bay of *Tonquin*, called *Champello de Terra*. These last lye in about 16 d. 45 m. North, but the Islands of *Champello de la Mar* lye in about 13 d. 45 m. N.

Over against these last Islands, on the Main, there is a large navigable River empties it self into the Sea. The City of *Quinam* stands on the Banks of this River, and is said to be the principal City of the Kingdom of *Cochinchina*. As to its Distance from the Sea, its Bigness, Strength, Riches, &c. I am yet in the dark: only I have been inform'd, that if a Ship is cast away on this Kingdom, the Seamen that escape drowning and get ashore become Slaves to the King. Captain *John Tiler* was thus serv'd, and despaired of ever getting his Freedom; but after a considerable Stay there he was taken Notice of by the King, and upon Promise of returning thither again to trade there, he was sent away. I sailed in a Vessel of his after this: but I never found him inclin'd to Trade thither any more. However, notwithstanding this their Severity to Shipwrackt People, I have been informed by Captain *Tiler* and others, that they have a Desire to Trade, though they are yet destitute of the Means to attain it. This Desire of Trade, they seem to have taken up from some *Chinese* Fugitives, who fled from the *Tartars*, when they conquered their Country: and being kindly received by these *Cochinchinese*, and having among them many Artificers, they instructed their kind Protectors in many useful Arts, of which they were wholly ignorant before. 'Tis probable this their Custom of seizing Shipwrackt Seamen may soon vanish by the coming in of Trade, which is already

An. 1688. advancing among them; for the Merchants of *China* do now drive some small Traffick among these People, and fetch thence some small Quantities of Pepper, *Lignum*, *Aloes*, and *Aguala* Wood, which is much esteemed for its rare Scent, and is very valuable in other Places of *India*. They also fetch Betle from hence, it growing here in great Plenty. I have had no Account of any Shipping the *Cochinchinese* have of their own, but I have met with them in their open Boats of four, five, or six Tun; imploying themselves chiefly in getting Pitch and Tar from *Pulo Condore*, in fishing about the Coast and Island to get Oyl, and in fetching *Aguala* Wood from the Bay of *Siam*; which, whether it grows there or no, I can't tell, but I have heard that 'tis only Drift-wood cast ashore by the Sea.

The seizing Shipwrackt Men has been also a Custom at *Pegu*, but whether still continued I know not. They lookt on such as Men preserved by God, purposely for them to feed and maintain; and therefore the King ordered them to be maintained by his Subjects; neither was any Work required of them, but they had Liberty to beg. By this means they got Food and Raiment from the Inhabitants, who were zealously charitable to them.

But to proceed; we kept a little without all the Islands, and coasting five or six Leagues further, we stood right over towards the N. E. Cod of the Bay of *Tonquin*. The Bay of *Tonquin* has its Entrance between the S. E. Point of *Champa* on the West-side, which lies in the Lat. of about 12 d. North, and the Island of *Aynam* near the S. W. part of *China*, on the East side. The Island of *Aynam* is in about 19 d. North. It is a pretty considerable Island, well peopled with *Chinese* Inhabitants, They have Ships of their own, and drive
a great

a great Trade by Sea. I have seen many of their Ships, some of 100 Tun, with Outlagers, on both Sides, and others like ordinary Jonks, without Outlagers; but am wholly ignorant of their Trade, any farther than what I have mentioned of their having Pearl Oyfters there, in the 7th Chapter of my *Voyage round the World*, page 174. An. 1688.

Near the Cod of the Bay of *Tonquin* there are Abundance of small Islands, of which I shall speak more hereafter. The Mouth of the Bay seems to be barred up with the great Shole of *Pracel*, which lies stretched at length before it, yet leaving two wide Channels, one at each End; so that Ships may pass in or out either way. And therefore even the Ships that are bound from the Streights of *Malacca* or *Siam* to *China*, may as well pass to and from within the Shole as without.

The Bay of *Tonquin* is about 30 Leagues wide in the broadest Place. There is good Sounding and Anchoring all over it: and in the Middle, where it is deepest, there is about 46 Fathom water. There you have black Oaze, and dark Peppery Sand: but on the West-side there is reddish Oazy Sand. Beside the other Islands before-mentioned, there are others of less Note on the *Cochinchina* Coast; but none of them all above four or five Miles from the Shore.

In the Bottom of the Bay also, there are some small Islands, close by the *Tonquin* Shore: 2 of these are of especial Note, not for their Bigness, but for Sea-marks of the 2 principal Rivers, or Mouth rather of the chief River of *Tonquin*. One of these Rivers or Mouths, is called *Rokbo*. It discharges it self into the Sea near the N. W. Corner of the Bay; and the Mouth of it is in about 20 d. 6 m. N. This River or Branch I was not at; but have been informed, that it has not above 12 Foot Water at the Entrance; but that its Bottom

An. 1688. is soft Oaz, and therefore very convenient for small Vessels, and it is the way that all the *Chinese* and *Siamars* do use. About a League to the Westward of this River's Mouth, there is a small pretty high Island call'd *Fishers Island*. It lieth about two Mile from the Shore, and it hath good Anchoring about it in 17 or 18 Foot Water: and therefore it is not only a Sea-mark for the River, but a secure place to ride in, and very convenient for Ships to anchor at, to shelter themselves when they come hither, especially if they have not a present Opportunity to enter the River; either because of coming too late in the Year, or being hindered by bad Weather.

The other River or Mouth, was that by which we entered; and 'tis larger and deeper than the former. I know not its particular Name; but for distinction I shall call it the River of *Domea*; because the first Town of Note, that I saw on its Bank was so called. The Mouth of the River is in lat. 20 d. 45 m. It disembogues 20 Leagues to the N. E. of *Rokbo*. There are many dangerous Sands and Shoals between these two Rivers, which stretch into the Sea 2 Leagues or more: and all the Coast, even from the *Cochinchina* Shore on the West, to *Cbina* on the East, admits of Shoals and Sands, which yet in some Places lie stretched farther off from the Shore than in others.

This River of *Domea* is that by which most *European* Ships enter, for the Sake of its Depth: yet here is a Bar of near two Mile broad, and the Channel is about half a Mile broad, having Sands on each Side. The Depth of the River is various at different Times and Seasons, by the Relation of the Pilots who are best acquainted here: for at some Times of the Year here is not above 15 or 16 Foot Water on a Spring Tide; and at other Times here are 26 or 27 Foot. The highest Tides are said to be in the Months

Months of *November, December, and January*, when the Northerly Monsoons blow; and the lowest in *May, June, and July*, when the Southerly Monsoons blow; but to be particular in them is beyond my Experience. An. 1688.

The Channel of the Bar is hard Sand, which makes it the more dangerous: and the Tides whirling among the Sands, set divers ways in a Tides Time; which makes it the more dangerous still. Therefore Ships that come hither, commonly wait for a Pilot to direct them, and if they arrive when it is Nepe-tide, they must stay for a Spring before a Pilot will come off to take Charge of them. The Mark of this River is a great high ridgy Mountain in the Country, call'd the *Elephant*. This must be brought to bear N. W. by N: then steering towards the Shore, the Water runs shallower, till you come into 6 Fathom, and then you will be two or three Miles from the Foot or Entrance of the Bar, and about the same Distance from a small Island called *Pearl Island*; which will then bear nearest N. N. E. Having these Marks and Depth, you may anchor, and wait for a Pilot.

The Pilots for this River are Fishermen, who live at a Village called *Batsha*, at the Mouth of the River; so seated, that they can see all Ships that wait for a Pilot, and hear the Guns too, that are often fired as Signals by *Europeans*, to give Notice of their Arrival.

It was in the Road before the Bar, in Sight of the *Elephant* Land, that we found the *Rainbow* of *London*, Captain *Pool* Commander, riding and waiting for a Pilot, when we and Captain *Lacy* arrived. Captain *Pool* came directly from *England*, and passing thro' the Streights of *Sundy*, touched at *Batavia*.

He had lain here 2 or 3 days before we arriv'd: but the Spring-tides coming on, the Pilots came aboard,

An. 1688. aboard, and we all three in Company passed in over the Bar, and entring about half-flood, we had 14 Foot and a half Water on the Bar. Being got over the Bar, we found it deeper, and the Bottom soft Oaze. The River at its Mouth is above a Mile wide, but grows narrower as you run farther up. We had a moderate Sea-breeze, and having a good Tide of Flood, made the best of it to reach to our anchoring Place.

Having run about five or six Leagues up the River, we past by a Village called *Domea*. This is a handsome Village: and 'twas the first of Note that we saw standing on the Banks. 'Tis seated on the Starboard-side going up, and so nigh the River, that the Tide sometimes washes the Walls of the Houses, for the Tide rises and falls here nine or ten Foot. This Village consists of about 100 Houses. The *Dutch* Ships that trade here do always lye in the River before this Town, and the *Dutch* Seamen, by their annual Returns hither from *Batavia*, are very intimate with the Natives, and as free here as at their own Homes: for the *Tonquinese* in general are a very sociable People, especially the Traders and poorer Sort: but of this more in its proper Place. The *Dutch* have instructed the Natives in the Art of Gardening: by which means they have Abundance of Herbage for Sallading; which among other Things is a great Refreshment to the *Dutch* Seamen, when they arrive here.

Tho' the *Dutch* who come to trade in this Kingdom, go no higher with their Ships than this *Domea*, yet the *English* usually go about 3 Mile farther up, and there lye at Anchor during their Stay in this Country. We did so at this Time, and passing by *Domea* came to an anchor at that Distance. The Tide is not so strong here as at *Domea*; but we found not one House near it: yet our Ships had not lain their many Days before the Natives came from
all

all the Country about, and sell a building them Houses after their fashion; so that in a Month's time there was a little Town built near our anchoring Place. This is no unusual thing in other parts of *India*, especially where Ships lye long at a place, the poorer sort of Natives taking this Opportunity to truck and barter; and by some little Offices, or Begging, but especially by bringing Women to let to hire, they get what they can of the Seamen. An. 1688.

This place where our Ships rode at Anchor was not above 20 Miles from the Sea: but the Trade of the Kingdom is driven at *Cachao*, the principal City; where for that Reason the *English* and *Dutch East-India* Companies have each of them their Factors constantly residing. The City was farther up the River, about 80 Miles from our anchoring Place; and our Captains got themselves in a readiness to go up thither; it being usual to send up the Goods in the Country Boats, which are large and commodious enough; and the hire is pretty reasonable both for the Vessels, and the Men who manage them. They are *Tonquinese*, and use both Oars and Sails. Our Factory at *Cachao* had news of our arrival before we came to an Anchor, and immediately the chief of the Factory, with some of the King of *Tonquin*'s Officers, came down to us, by that time we had lain there about 4 or 5 Days. The *Tonquinese* Officers came to take an account of the Ships and Lading, and our Captains received them with great civility, firing of Guns, feasting for 2 or 3 Days, and Presents also at their return back to *Cachao*.

Soon after their departure, the chief of the Factory returned thither again, and with him went our three Captains, and some others, among whom I got leave to go also. Captain *Weldon* had recommended me to the chief of the Factory, while he was aboard us: and my going up now to the City,

An. 1688. City, was in Order to have his Assistance in the Voyage to *Cochinchina, Champa, or Cambodia*, which Captain *Weldon* had contrived for me; nor was it his Fault that it came to nothing.

We went from our Ships in the Country Boats we had hired, with the Tide of Flood, and anchored in the Ebb: For the Tide runs strong for thirty or forty Miles beyond the Place where we left our Ships. Our Men contented themselves with looking after their Goods (the *Tonquinese* being very light-finger'd) and left the Management of the Boats entirely to the Boat's Crew. Their Boats have but one Mast; and when the Wind is against them they take it down, and ply their Oars. As we advanced thus up the River, sometimes rowing, sometimes sailing, we had a delightful Prospect over a large level fruitful Country. It was generally either Pasture or Rice-fields; and void of Trees, except only about the Villages, which stood thick, and appeared mighty pleasant at a Distance. There are many of these Villages stand close to the Banks of the Rivers, incompass'd with Trees on the Backside only, but open to the River.

When we came near any of these Villages, we were commonly encounter'd with Beggars, who came off to us in little Boats made of Twigs, and plaistered over both Inside and Outside with Clay, but very leaky. These were a poor Leprous People, who for that Reason are compell'd by the rest to live by themselves, and are permitted to beg publicly. As soon as they spied us they set up a loud doleful Cry, and as we past by them we threw them out some Rice, which they received with great Appearance of Joy.

In about four Days Time we got to *Hean*, a Town on the East-side of the River; which is here entire; for a little before we came to *Hean* we met the

the main Stream where it parts into the two Chan-^{Am. 1688.} nels, that of *Domea*, which we came up, and the other of *Rokbo*: making a large and triangular Island between them and the Sea; the Mouths of those Channels being, as I have said, 20 Leagues asunder.

Hean is about 60 Miles from the Place where we left our Ships, and about 80 from the Sea that way: But along the River or Channel *Rokbo*, where the Land trends more to the Southward, it seems to be farther distant from the Sea. 'Tis a considerable Town, of about 2000 Houses; but the Inhabitants are most poor People and Soldiers, who keep a Garrison there; tho' it has neither Walls, Fort, nor great Guns.

Here is one Street belonging to the *Chinese* Merchants. For some Years ago a great many lived at *Cachao*; till they grew so numerous, that the Natives themselves were even swallowed up by them. The King taking Notice of it, ordered them to remove from thence, allowing them to live any where but in the City. But the major Part of them presently forsook the Country, as not finding it convenient for them to live any where but at *Cachao*; because that is the only Place of Trade in the Country, and Trade is the Life of a *Chinese*. However some of them were content to settle at *Hean*, where they have remained ever since. And these Merchants, notwithstanding the Prohibition, go often to *Cachao*, to buy and sell Goods; but are not suffer'd to make it their constant Residence. There were two of these *China* Merchants who traded yearly to *Japan*, with raw and wrought Silks, bringing back Money chiefly. These all of them wore long Hair braided behind, as their own Country Fashion was before the *Tartarian* Conquest. The *French* too have their Factory here, not being allowed to fix at *Cachao* and their Bishops
Pa-

An. 1688. Palace is the fairest building in *Hean*: but of this I shall have occasion to speak more hereafter.

The Governor of the adjacent Province lives here. He is one of the principal *Mandarins* of the Nation, and he has always a great many Soldiers in the Town, and inferiour Officers, whom he employs at his pleasure on any Occasion. Besides, here are also some of the King's River Frigats, which I shall hereafter describe, ready to be sent on any Expedition: and tho' no *Europeans* come up so far as this with their Ships, (that I could learn) yet the *Siamites* and *Chinese* bring their Ships up the River *Rokbo*, quite to *Hean*, and lie at Anchor before it: and we found there several *Chinese* Jonks. They ride a-float in the middle of the River; for the Water does not rise and fall much at this place: Neither is the flood discerned by the turning of the stream; for that always runs down, tho' not so swift near full Sea as at other times: for the Tide pressing against the Stream, tho' faintly so far up the River, has not Power to turn it, but only slackens its Course, and makes the Water rise a little.

The Governor or his Deputy gives his *Chop* or Pass to all Vessels that go up or down; not so much as a Boat being suffer'd to proceed without it. For which Reason we also made a Stop: yet we stayed here but a little while; and therefore I did not now go ashore; but had a while after this a better Opportunity of seeing *Hean*.

From *Hean* we went up to *Cachao* in our Boats, being about 2 Days more on our Voyage, for we had no Tide to help us. We landed at the *English* Factory, and I stayed there 7 or 8 Days, before I went down to our Ships again in one of the Country Boats. We had good weather coming up: but it rained all the time of this my first stay at *Cachao*; and we had much wet weather after this.

But

But having got thus far, I shall now proceed to *An. 1688.* give some general Account of this Country; from my own Observations, and the Experience of Merchants and others worthy of Credit, who have had their Residence there, and some of them a great many Years.



An. 1688.



C H A P. II.

Tonquin, its Situation, Soil, Waters, and Provinces. Its natural Produce, Roots, Herbs, Fruits, and Trees. The Cam-chain and Camquit Oranges. Their Limes, &c. Their Beetle and Lichea Fruit. The Pone-tree, Lack-trees, Mulberry-trees, and Rice. Their Land Animals, Fowl, tame and wild; Nets for wild Ducks, Locusts, Fish, Balachaun, Nukemum-Pickle, Soy, and manner of Fishing. The Market, Provisions, Food and Cookery. Their Chau or Tea. The Temperature of their Air and Weather throughout the Year. Of the great Heats near the Tropicks. Of the yearly Land Floods here, and elsewhere in the Torrid Zone, and of the overflowing of the Nile in Egypt. Of Storms called Tuffoons: and of the Influence the Rains have on the Harvest at Tonquin, and elsewhere in the Torrid Zone.

THE Kingdom of *Tonquin* is bounded to the North and North East with *China*, to the West with the Kingdom of *Laos*, to the S. and E. with *Cochinchina* and the Sea, which washes a part of this Kingdom. As to the particular Bounds or Extent of it, I cannot be a competent Judge, coming to it by Sea, and going up directly to *Cachao*: but it is reasonable to believe it to be a pretty large Kingdom, by the many great Provinces which are said to be contained in it. That part of the Kingdom, that borders on the Sea, is all very

very low Land : neither is there any Hill to be seen, *An. 1688.* but the *Elephant* Mountain, and a Ridge of a much less Heighth continued from thence to the Mouth of the River of *Domea*. The Land for about sixty Miles up in the Country is still very low, even and plain : nor is it much higher, for about forty Miles farther quite to *Cachao*, and beyond it ; being without any sensible Hill, tho' generally of a tolerable good Heighth, and with some gentle Risings here and there, that make it a fine pleasant Champion ; and the further Side of this also is more Level than the Champion Country it self about *Hean* or *Cachao*. Farther still to the North, beyond all this, I have been informed that there is a Chain of high Mountains, running cross the Country from East to West ; but I could get no Intimation of what is beyond them.

The Soil of this Country is generally very rich : That very low Land I speak of towards the Sea, is most black Earth, and the Mould pretty deep. In some Places there's very strong Clay. The Champion Land is generally yellowish or greyish Earth, of a looser and more friable Substance than the former : yet in some Places it has a Touch of the Clay too. In the plain Country, near the Mountains last mentioned, there are said to be some high steep Rocks of Marble scattered up and down at unequal Distances, which standing in that large plain Savannah, are like so many great Towers or Castles : and they appear more visible, because the Land about them is not burdened with Wood, as in some Places in its Neighbourhood.

I have said somewhat already of the great River and its two Branches *Rokbo* and *Domea*, wherewith this Country is chiefly water'd : tho' it is not destitute of many other pleasant Streams, that are lost in these, in their Course towards the Sea : and probably there are many others, that run imme-

An. 1688 diately into the Sea, through their own Channels, tho' not so navigable as the other. The Country in general is very well watered; and by Means of the great Navigable River and its Branches, it has the Opportunity of Foreign Trade. This rises about the Mountains in the North, or from beyond them; whence running Southerly toward the Sea, it passes thro' the before-mentioned Plain of Marble Rocks, and by that Time it comes to *Cachao*, which is about forty or fifty Miles to the South of the Mountains, 'tis about as broad as the *Thames* at *Lambeth*: yet so shallow in the dry Season, as that it may be forded on Horseback. At *Hean*, twenty Miles lower, 'tis rather broader than the *Thames* at *Gravesend*; and so below *Hean* to the Place where it divides it self.

The Kingdom of *Tonquin* is said to be divided into eight large Provinces, viz. the *East* and *West* Provinces, the *North* and *South* Provinces, and the Province of *Cachao* in the Middle between those four: which five I take to be the principal Provinces, making the Heart of the Country. The other three, which are *Tenan*, *Teneboa*, and *Ngeam*, lie more upon the Borders.

The Province of *Tenan* is the most Easterly, having *China* on the S. E. the Island *Aynam* and the Sea on the S. and S. W. and the *East* Province on the N. W. This is but a small Province: its chiefest Product is Rice.

The *East* Province stretches away from *Tenan* to the *North* Province, having also *China* on its East side, part of the South Province, and the Province or *Cachao* on the West; and the Sea on the South. This is a very large Province; 'tis chiefly low Land, and much of it Islands, especially the S. E. part of it, bordering on the Sea towards *Tenan*; and here the Sea makes the Cod of a Bay. It has Abundance of Fishermen inhabiting near the Sea: but its chief

Pro-

Imp 50605 dt-31-7-2010



61B363

Produce is Rice : here is also good Pasturage, and much Cattle. &c. *Hean* is the chief Place of this Province, and the Seat of the *Mandarin* its Governor. As. 1688.

The S. Province is the triangular Island, made by Sea: The River of *Domea* is on its East-side, dividing it from the East Province, and *Rokbo* on the West, dividing it from *Tenan* ; having the Sea to its South. This Province is very low plain even Land, producing Rice in great Abundance : here are large Pastures, and Abundance of Fishermen near the Sea.

Teneboa to the West of *Rokbo*, has the West Province on its North, *Aynam* on its West, and the Sea on its South : this Province is also low Land, chiefly abounds in Rice and Cattle, and hath a great Trade in Fishing, as all the Sea-Coast has in general.

The Province of *Ngeam*, hath *Teneboa* on the East, and on the South and West it borders on *Cochinchina*, and has the West Province on its North. This is a pretty large Province, abounding with Rice and Cattle : and here are always Soldiers kept to guard the Frontiers from the *Cochinchinese*.

The West Provinces hath *Ngeam* on the South, the Kingdom of *Laos* on the West, the Province of *Cachao* on the East, and on the North the North Province. This is a large Province, and good Champion Land ; rich in Soil, partly woody, partly Pasture. The Product of this Province is chiefly in *Lack* ; and here are bred a great Abundance of Silk-worms for making Silk.

The North Province is a large Tract of Land, making the North-side of this whole Kingdom. It hath the Kingdom of *Laos* on the West, and *China* on the East and North, the Kingdom of *Bao* or *Baotan* on the North West, and on the South Borders.

An. 1688. ders on three of the principal Provinces of *Tonquin*, viz. the West Province that of *Cachao*, and the East Province. The North Province, as it is large, so it has Variety of Land and Soil; a great deal of plain Champion Land, and many high Mountains which yield Gold, &c. The wild Elephants of this Country are found most on these Mountains. The other Parts of the Province produce Lack and Silk, &c.

The Province of *Cachao*, in the Heart of the Kingdom, lies between the East, West, North, and South Provinces: 'tis a Champion pleasant Country: the Soil is yellow or grey Earth: and 'tis pretty woody, with some Savannahs. It abounds with the two principal Commodities of their Trade, viz. Lack and Silk, and has some Rice: Nor are any of the Provinces destitute of these Commodities, tho' in different Proportions, each according to the respective Soil.

This Country has of its own Growth all Necessaries for the Life of Man. They have little Occasion for eatable Roots, having such Plenty of Rice; yet they have Yams and Potatoes for Variety; which would thrive here as well as any where, were the Natives industrious to propagate them.

The Land is every where cloathed with Herbage of one kind or other; but the dry Land has the same Fate that most dry Lands have between the *Tropicks*, to be over-run with Purslain; which growing wild, and being pernicious to other tender Herbs and Plants, they are at the Pains to weed it out of their Fields and Gardens, though 'tis very sweet, and makes a good Sallad for a hot Country.

There is a Sort of Herb very common in this Country, which grows wild in stagnant Ponds, and floats on the Surface of the Water. It has a narrow, long, green thick Leaf. It is much esteemed
and

and eaten by the Natives, who commend it for a very wholesome Herb, and say that 'tis good to expel Poyson. This Country produces many other Sorts of wild Herbs; and their Gardens also are well furnished with pleasant and wholesome ones, especially many Onions, of which here are great Plenty.

Plantains and Bonanoes grow and thrive here as well as any where, but they are used here only as Fruit, and not for Bread, as in many Places of *America*. Besides these here are divers Sorts of excellent Fruits, both Ground-fruit and Tree-fruit. The Ground-fruits are Pumpkins, Melons, Pine-apples, &c. the Tree-fruits are Mangoes, a few Oranges, Limes, Coco-nuts, Guava's, Mulberries, their much esteemed Betle, a Fruit called *Lichea*, &c. The Oranges are of divers Sorts, and two of them more excellent than the rest. One Sort is called *Cam-chain*, the other is call'd *Cam-quit*. *Cam*, in the *Tonquinese* Language, signifies an Orange, but what the distinguishing Words *Cam* and *Quit* signifie I know not.

The *Cam-chain* is a large Orange, of a yellowish Colour: The Rind is prettythick and rough; and the Inside is yellow like Amber. It has a most fragrant Smell, and the Taste is very delicious. This Sort of Orange is the best that I did ever taste; I believe there are not better in the World: A Man may eat freely of them; for they are so innocent that they are not denied to such as have Fevers, and other sick People.

The *Cam-quit* is a very small round Fruit, not above half so big as the former. It is of a deep red Colour, and the Rind is very smooth and thin. The Inside also is very red; the Taste is not inferior to the *Cam-chain*, but it is accounted very unwholesome Fruit, especially to such as are subject to Fluxes; for it both creates and heightens that

An. 1688. Distemper. These two Sorts are very plentiful and cheap, and they are in Season from *October* till *February*, but then the *Cham-chain* becomes redder, and the Rind is also thinner. The other Sorts of Oranges are not much esteemed.

The Limes of *Tonquin* are the largest I ever saw. They are commonly as big as an ordinary Limon, but rounder. The Rind is of a pale yellow Colour when ripe; very thin and smooth. They are extraordinary juicy, but not near so sharp or tart in Taste as the *West-Indian* Limes.

Coco-nuts and Guava's do thrive here very well: but there are not many of the latter.

The *Betle* of *Tonquin* is said to be the best in *India*; there is great Plenty of it; and 'tis most esteemed when it is young, green and tender; for 'tis then very juicy. At *Mindanao* also they like it best green: but in other Places of the *East-Indies* it is commonly chew'd when it is hard and dry.

The *Lichea* is another delicate Fruit. 'Tis as big as a small Pear, somewhat long shaped, of a reddish Colour, the Rind pretty thick and rough, the Inside white, inclosing a large black Kernel, in Shape like a Bean.

The Country is in some part woody; but the low Land in general is either grassy Pasture, or Rice Fields, only thick set with small Groves, which stand scattering very pleasantly over all the low-Country. The Trees in the Groves are of divers Sorts, and most unknown to us. There is good Timber for building either Ships or Houses, and indifferent good Masts may here be had.

There is a Tree called by the Natives *Pone*, chiefly used for making Cabinets, or other Wares to be lackred. This is a soft Sort of Wood, not much unlike Fir, but not so serviceable. Another Tree grows in this Country that yields the Lack, with which Cabinets and other fine Things are overlaid.

These

These grow plentifully in some Places, especially in the Champion Lands. Here are also Mulberry Trees in great Plenty, to feed the Silk-worms, from whence comes the chief Trade in the Country. The Leaves of the old Trees are not so nourishing to the Silk-worms, as those of the young Trees; and therefore they raise Crops of young ones every Year, to feed the Worms: for when the Season is over, the young Trees are pluckt up by the Roots, and more planted against the next Year; so the Natives suffer none of these Trees to grow to bear Fruit. I heard of no Mulberries kept for eating, but some few raised by our *English* Merchants at *Hean*; and these bear but small hungry Fruit.

Here is good Plenty of Rice, especially in the low Land, that is fatned by the overflowing Rivers. They have two Crops every Year, with great Increase, if they have seasonable Rains and Floods. One Crop is in *May*, and the other in *November*: and though the low Land is sometimes overflown with Water in the Time of Harvest, yet they matter it not, but gather the Crop and fetch it Home wet in their Canoas; and making the Rice fast in small Bundles, hang it up on their Houses to dry. This serves them for Bread-corn; and as the Country is very kindly for it, so their Inhabitants live chiefly of it.

Of Land-Animals in this Country there are Elephants, Horses, Buffaloes, Bullocks, Goats, Deer, a few Sheep for the King, Hogs, Dogs, Cats, Lizards, Snakes, Scorpions, Centapees, Toads, Frogs, &c. The Country is so very populous, that they have but few Deer or wild Game for Hunting, unless it be in the remoter Parts of the Kingdom. But they have Abundance of Fowls both tame and wild. The tame Fowls are Cocks and Hens, and Ducks also in great Plenty, of the same Sort with ours. The Inhabitants have little Houses

An. 1688. Houses made purposely for the Ducks to lay their Eggs in, driving them in every Night in laying Time, and letting them out again in the Morning. There are also some Geese, Parrots, Partridges, Parakites, Turtle-Doves, &c. with many sorts of smaller Birds. Of wild Water-fowls, they have Ducks, Widgeons, Teals, Herons, Pellicans, and Crab-catchers, (which I shall describe in the Bay of *Campeachy*) and other smaller Water-fowls. The Duck, Widgeon, and Teal are innumerable: They breed here in the Months of *May*, *June*, and *July*; then they fly only in Couples: but from *October* to *March* you will see over all the low watry Lands great Companies together: and I have no where seen such large Flights, nor such Plenty of Game. They are very shy since the *English* and *Dutch* settled here; for now the Natives as well as they shoot them: but before their Arrival the *Tonquinese* took them only with Nets, neither is this Custom left off yet. The Net that is used for this Game is made square, and either bigger or less according as they have Occasion. They fix two Poles about ten or eleven Foot high, upright in the Ground, near the Ponds, where the Ducks haunt; and the Net has a Head-cord, which is stretched out streight, made from the Top of one Pole to the other; from whence the lower part of the Net hangs down loose towards the Ground; and when in the Evening they fly towards the Pond, many of them strike against the Net, and are there entangled.

There is a kind of Locust in *Tonquin*, in great Abundance. This Creature is about the Bigness of the Top of a Man's Finger, and as long as the first Joynt. It breeds in the Earth, especially in the Banks of Rivers and Ditches in the low Country. In the Months of *January* and *February*, which is the Season of taking them, being then only seen, this Creature first comes out of the Earth in huge Swarms.

Swarms. It is then of a whitish Colour, having *An. 1688.* two small Wings, like the Wings of a Bee: at its first coming out of the Earth it takes its Flight; but for Want of Strength or Use falls down again in a short Time. Such as strive to fly over the River, do commonly fall down into the Water and are drowned, or become a Prey to the Fish of the River, or are carried out into the Sea to be devoured there: But the Natives in these Months watch the Rivers, and take up thence Multitudes, skimming them from off the Water with little Nets. They eat them fresh, broiled on the Coals; or pickle them to keep. They are plump and fat, and are much esteemed by Rich and Poor, as good wholesome Food, either fresh or pickled.

The Rivers and Ponds are stored with divers Sorts of excellent Fish, besides Abundance of Frogs, which they angle for, being highly esteemed by the *Tonquinese*. The Sea too contributes much towards the Support of poor People, by yielding plentiful Stores of Fish, that swarm on this Coast in their Seasons, and which are commonly preferr'd before the River Fish. Of these here are divers Sorts, besides Sea-Turtle, which frequently come ashore on the sandy Bays in their Seasons to lay their Eggs. Here are also both Land-crabs and Sea-crabs good Store, and other Shell-fish, *viz.* Craw-fish, Shrimps, and Prawns. Here is one Sort of small Fish much like an *Anchovy*, both in Shape and Size, which is very good pickled. There are other Sorts of small Fish, which I know not the Names of. One Sort of them comes in great Shoals near the Shore, and these the Fishermen with their Nets take so plentifully as to load their Boats with them. Among these they generally take a great many Shrimps in their Nets, which they carry ashore mixt together as they take them, and make *Balachau* with them.

An. 1688. *Balachoun* is a Composition of a strong Savour ; yet a very delightful Dish to the Natives of this Country. To make it, they throw the Mixture of Shrimps and small Fish into a Sort of weak Pickle made with Salt and Water, and put it into a tight earthen Vessel or Jar. The Pickle being thus weak, it keeps not the Fish firm and hard, neither is it probably so designed, for the Fish are never gutted. Therefore in a short Time they turn all to a Mash in the Vessel ; and when they have lain thus a good while, so that the Fish is reduced to a Pap, they then draw off the Liquor into fresh Jars, and preserve it for use. The masht Fish that remains behind is called *Balachoun*, and the Liquor pour'd off is called *Nuke-mum*. The poor People eat the *Balachoun* with their Rice. 'Tis rank-scented, yet the Taste is not altogether unpleasant ; but rather savory, after one is a little used to it. The *Nuke-mum* is of a pale brown Colour, inclining to grey ; and pretty clear. It is also very savory and used as a good Sauce for Fowls, not only by the Natives, but also by many *Europeans*, who esteem it equal with *Soy*. I have been told that *Soy* is made partly with a fishy Composition, and it seems most likely by the Taste : tho' a Gentleman of my Acquaintance, who was very intimate with one that sailed often from *Tonquin* to *Japan*, from whence the true *Soy* comes, told me, that it was made only with Wheat, and a Sort of Beans mixt with Water and Salt.

Their way of Fishing differs little from ours : in the Rivers they take some of their Fish with Hook and Line, others with Nets of several Sorts. At the Mouths of the Rivers they set Nets against the Stream or Tide. These have two long Wings opening on each Side the Mouth of the Net, to guide the Fish into it ; where passing through a narrow Neck, they are caught in a Bag at the farther End.

. Where

Where the River's Mouth is so wide, that the Wing of the Net will not reach from side to side, as at *Batshaw* particularly it will not, there they supply that Defect, with long slender Canes, which they stick upright near one another in a Row: for on both Sides of the River, when the Tide runs strong (which is the Time that the Fish are moving) the limber Canes make such a rattling by striking against each other, that thereby the Fish are scared from thence towards the Mouth of the Net, in the Middle of the Stream. Farther up the River, they have Nets made square like a great Sheet. This Sort hath two long Poles laid across each other. At this crossing of the Poles a long Rope is fastned; and the Net hangs down in a Bag by its Corners from them. To manage it there is a substantial Post, set upright and firm in the River; and the Top of it may be eight or ten Foot above the Water. On the Top of this Post there is a Mortice made to receive a long Pole, that lies athwart like the Beam of a Balance: to the heavier End of which they tie the Rope, which holds the Net; and to the other End another Rope to pull up the Net on Occasion. The Fishermen sink it with Stones to the River's Bottom, and when they see any Fish come over it, one suddenly pulls the Rope at the opposite End of the Beam, and heaves Net and Fish out of the Water. They take a great deal of Fish this way: and sometimes they use Drag-Nets, which go quite a-crofs, and sweep the River.

In the stagnant Ponds, such as the *Mandarins* have commonly about their Houses, they go in and trouble the Water with their Feet, till 'tis all muddy and thick: and as the Fish rise to the Surface they take what they please with small Nets, fastned to a Hoop, at the End of a Pole.

An. 1688.

For all these Sorts of Provision there are Markets duly kept all over *Tonquin* one in the Week, in a Neighbourhood of four or five Villages; and held at each of them successively in its Order: so that the same Village has not the Market returned to it till four or five Weeks after. These Markets are abundantly more stor'd with Rice (as being their chief Subsistence, especially the poorer Sort) than either with Flesh or Fish, yet wants there not for Pork, and young Pigs good Store, Ducks and Hens, Plenty of Eggs, Fish great and small, fresh and salted *Balachaun* and *Nuke-Mum*; with all Sorts of Roots, Herbs, and Fruits, even in these Country Markets. But at *Cachao*, where there are Markets kept every day, they have besides these, Beef of Bulls, Buffaloes-flesh, Goats-flesh, Horse-flesh, Cats and Dogs, (as I have been told) and Locusts.

They dress their Food very cleanly, and make it savory: for which they have several Ways unknown in *Europe*; but they have many Sorts of Dishes that would turn the Stomach of a Stranger, which yet they themselves like very well, as particularly, a Dish of raw Pork, which is very cheap and common. This is only Pork cut and minced very small, fat and lean together; which being afterwards made up in Balls, or Rolls like Sausages, and prest very hard together, is then neatly wrapt up in clean Leaves, and without more ado, served up to the Table. Raw Beef is another Dish, much esteemed at *Cachao*. When they kill a Bullock they singe the Hair off with Fire, as we singe Bacon-Hogs in *England*. Then they open it; and while the Flesh is yet hot, they cut good Collops from off the lean Parts, and put them into a very tart Vinegar, where it remains three or four Hours longer, till it is sufficiently soaked, and then, without more Trouble, they take it out, and eat it with great Delight. As for Horse-flesh, I know not whether they

they kill any purposely for the Shambles ; or whether they only do it, when they are not likely to live ; as I have seen them do their working Bullocks at *Galicia* in *Old Spain* ; where the Cattle falling down with Labour, and being so poor and tired that they cannot rise, they are slaughtered, and sent to Market ; and I think I never eat worse Beef than at the *Groin*. The Horse-flesh comes to Market at *Cachao* very frequently, and is as much esteemed as Beef. Elephants they eat also ; and the Trunk of this Beast is an acceptable Present for a Nobleman, and that too tho' the Beast dyes with Age or Sicknefs. For here are but few wild Elephants, and those so shy, that they are not easily taken. But the King having a great Number of tame Elephants, when one of these dyes, 'tis given to the Poor, who presently fetch away the Flesh, but the Trunk is cut in Pieces, and presented to the *Mandarins*. Dogs and Cats are killed purposely for the Shambles, and their Flesh is much esteemed by People of the best Fashion, as I have been credibly informed. Great yellow Frogs also are much admired, especially when they come fresh out of the Pond. They have many other such choice Dishes : and in all the Villages, at any Time of the Day, be it Market-day or not, there are several to be sold by poor People, who make it their Trade. The most common Sorts of Cookeries, next to boiled Rice, is to dress little Bits of Pork, spitted five or six of them at once on a small Skiver, and roasted. In the Markets also, and daily in every Village, there are Women sitting in the Streets, with a Pipkin over a small Fire, full of *Gbau*, as they call it, a Sort of very ordinary Tea, of a reddish brown Colour, and 'tis their ordinary Drink.

The Kingdom of *Tonquin* is in general healthy enough, especially in the dry Season, when also it is very delightful. For the Seasons of the Year

at

An. 1688 at *Touquin* and all the Countries between the *Tropicks*, are distinguished into Wet and Dry, as properly as others are into Winter and Summer: But as the Alteration from Winter to Summer, and *vice versa* is not made of a sudden, but with the interchangeable Weather of Spring and Autumn; so also towards the End of the dry Season, there are some gentle Showers now and then, that precede the violent wet Months; and again toward the End of these, several fair Days that introduce the dry Time. These Seasons are generally much alike at the same Time of the Year in all Places of the *Torrid Zone*, on the same Side of the *Equator*: but for two or three Degrees on each Side of it, the Weather is more mixt and uncertain, (tho' inclining to the wet extreme) and is often contrary to that which is then settled on the same Side of the *Equator* more toward the *Tropic*. So that even when the wet Season is set in, in the Northern Parts of the *Torrid Zone*, it may yet be dry Weather for two or three Degrees North of the Line: and the same may be said of the contrary Latitudes and Seasons. This I speak with Respect to the Dryness or Moisture of Countries in the *Torrid Zone*: but it may also hold good of their Heat or Cold, generally: for as to all these Qualities there is a further Difference arises from the Make or Situation of the Land, or other accidental Causes, besides what depends on the respective Latitude or Regard to the Sun. Thus the Bay of *Campeachy* in the *West-Indies*, and that of *Bengal* in the East, in much the same Latitude, are exceeding hot and moist; and whether their Situation, being very low Countries, and the Scarcity and Faintness of the Sea-breezes, as in most Bays, may not contribute hereunto, I leave others to judge. Yet even as to the Latitudes of these Places, lying near the *Tropicks* they are generally upon that Account alone more inclined to great Heats, than

than Places near the Equator. This is what I have experienced in many places in such Latitudes both in the *East* and *West-Indies*, that the hottest parts of the World are these near the Tropicks, especially 3 or 4 Degrees within them; sensibly hotter than under the Line it self. Many reasons may be assigned for this, beside the accidental ones from the make of the particular Countries, Tropical Winds, or the like. For the longest Day at the Equator never exceeds 12 Hours, and the Night is always at the same length: But near the Tropicks the longest Day is about 13 Hours and an half; and an Hour and an half being also taken from the Night, what with the length of the Day, and the shortness of the Night, there is a difference of three Hours: which is very considerable. Besides which, at such Places as are about 3 Degrees within the Tropicks, or in the Lat. of 20 Deg. N. the Sun comes within 2 or 3 Degrees of the Zenith in the beginning of *May*; and having past the Zenith, goes not above 2 or 3 Degrees beyond it, before it returns and passeth the Zenith once more; and by this means is at least three Months within 4 Degrees of the Zenith: so that they have the Sun in a manner over their Heads from the beginning of *May*, till the latter end of *July*. Whereas when the Sun comes under the Line, in *March* or *September*, it immediately posts away to the North or the South, and is not 20 Days in passing from 3 Degrees on one side, to 3 Degrees on the other side the Line. So that by his small stay there, the Heat cannot be answerable to what it is near the Tropick, where he so long continues in a manner Vertical at Noon, and is so much longer above the Horriзон each particular Day, with the intervening of a shorter Night.

But to return to *Yonquin*. During the wet Months there 'tis excessive hot, especially when-

An. 1688 ever the Sun breaks out of the Clouds, and there is then but little Wind stirring : And I have been told by a Gentleman who lived there many Years, that he thought it was the hottest Place that ever he was in, though he had been in many other Parts of *India*. And as to the Rains, it has not the least share of them, though neither altogether the greatest of what I have met with in the Torrid Zone ; and even in the same Latitude, and on the same side of the Equator. The wet Season begins here the latter End of *April*, or the beginning of *May* ; and holds till the latter End of *August*, in which Time are very violent Rains, some of many Hours, others of two or three Days continuance. Yet are not these Rains without some considerable intervals of fair Weather, especially toward the beginning or end of the Season.

By these Rains are caus'd those Land-floods, which never fail in these Countries between the Tropicks at their annual Periods ; all the Rivers then overflowing their Banks. This is a thing so well known to all who are any way acquainted with the Torrid Zone, that the Cause of the overflowing of the *Nile*, to find out which the Ancients set their Wits so much upon the Rack, and fancied melting of Snows, and blowing of *Etesia*, and I know not what, is now no longer a Secret. For these Floods must needs discharge themselves upon such low Lands as lie in their way ; as the Land of *Egypt* does with respect to the *Nile*, coming a great way from within the Torrid Zone, and falling down from the higher *Ethiopia*. And any one who will be at the Pains to compare the Time of the Land-flood in *Egypt* with that of the Torrid Zone in any of the parts of it along which the *Nile* runs, will find that of *Egypt* so much later than the other, as 'twill be thought reasonable to allow for the daily Progress of the Waters along so vast a tract
of

of Ground. They might have made the same wonderment of any other Rivers which run any long Course from out the Torrid Zone : but they knowing only the North Temperate Zone, and the *Nile* being the only great River known to come thither a great way from a Country near the Line, they made that only the subject of their enquiry : but the same effect must also follow from any great River that should run from out of the Torrid Zone into the South Temperate Zone. And as to the Torrid Zone, the yearly Floods, and their cause, are every where as well known by People there, as the Rivers themselves. In *America* particularly, in *Campeachy* Rivers, in *Rio Grande*, and others, 'tis a vast havock is made by these Floods ; bringing down sometimes Trees of an incredible bigness ; and these Floods always come at the stated season of the Year. In the dry part of *Peru*, along the Coasts of the *Pacifick* Sea, where it never Rains, as it seldom does in *Egypt*, they have not only Floods, but Rivers themselves, made by the annual falling of Rain on the Mountains within Land ; the Channels of which are dry all the rest of the Year. This I have observ'd concerning the River *Xlo*, on the Coast of *Peru*, in my former Volume, p. 95. But it has this difference from the Floods of *Egypt*, that besides its being a River in the Torrid Zone, 'tis also in South Latitude, and so overflows at a contrary Season of the Year ; to wit, at such Time as the Sun being in Southern Signs, causes the Rains and Floods on that side the Line.

But to return from this digression, in *August* the weather at *Tonquin* is more moderate, as to heat or wet, yet not without some showers, and *September* and *October* are more temperate still : yet the worst weather in all the Year for Seamen, is in one of the 3 Months last mentioned : for then the violent Storms, called *Tuffoons* (*Typhones*) are expected

An. 1688. pected. These Winds are so very fierce, that for Fear of them the *Chinese* that trade thither, will not stir out of Harbour till the End of *October*: after which Month there is no more Danger of any violent Storms, till the next Year.

Tuffoons are a particular kind of violent Storms, blowing on the Coast of *Tonquin*, and the neighbouring Coasts in the Months of *July*, *August*, and *September*. They commonly happen near the Full or Change of the Moon, and are usually preceded by very fair Weather, small Winds and a clear Sky. Those small Winds vere from the common Trade of that Time of the Year, which is here at S. W. and shuffles about to the N. and N. E. Before the Storm comes there appears a boding Cloud in the N. E. which is very black near the Horizon, but towards the upper Edge it looks of a dark Copper-colour, and higher still it is brighter, and afterwards it fades to a whitish glaring Colour, at the very Edge of the Cloud. This Cloud appears very amazing and ghastly, and is sometimes seen twelve Hours before the Storm comes. When that Cloud begins to move apace, you may expect the Wind presently. It comes on fierce, and blows very violent at N. E. twelve Hours more or less. It is also commonly accompanied with terrible Claps of Thunder, large and frequent Flashes of Lightning, and excessive hard Rain. When the Wind begins to abate it dies away suddenly, and falling flat calm, it continues so an Hour, more or less: then the Wind comes about to the S. W. and it blows and rains as fierce from thence, as it did before at N. E. and as long.

November and *December* are 2 very dry, wholesom, warm and pleasant Months. *January*, *February*, and *March* are pretty dry, but then you have thick Fogs in the Morning, and sometimes drizzling cold Rains: the Air also in these three Months, particularly in *January* and *February* is very sharp, especially when

when the Wind is at North East, or North North East, whether because of the Quarter it blows from, or the Land it blows over, I know not: for I have elsewhere observed such Winds to be colder, where they have come from over Land. *April* is counted a moderate Month, either as to Heat or Cold, Dryness or Moisture. *An. 1688.*

This is ordinarily the State of their Year: yet are not these various Seasons so exact in the Returns, but that there may sometimes be the Difference of a Month, or more. Neither yet are the several Seasons, when they do come, altogether alike in all Years. For sometimes the Rains are more violent and lasting, at other Times more moderate; and some Years they are not sufficient to produce reasonable Crops, or else they come so unseasonably as to injure and destroy the Rice, or at least to advance it but little. For the Husbandry of this Country, and other Countries in the Torrid Zone depends on the Annual Floods, to moisten and fatten the Land; and if the wet Seasons prove more dry than ordinary, so as that the Rice-Land is not well drenched with the overflowing of the Rivers, the Crops will be but mean: and Rice being their Bread, the Staff of Life with them, if that fails, such a populous Country as this cannot subsist without being beholding to its Neighbours. But when it comes to that Pass, that they must be supplied by Sea, many of the poorer Sort sell their Children to relieve their Wants, and so preserve their Lives, whilst others that have not Children to sell, may be famished and dye miserable in the Streets. This Manner of Parents dealing with their Children is not peculiar to this Kingdom alone, but is customary in other Places of the *East-Indies*, especially on the Coasts of *Malabar* and *Coromandel*. There a Famine happens more frequently, and rages sometimes to a Degree beyond Belief: for those Coun-

An. 1688. tries are generally very dry, and less productive of Rice than *Tonquin*. Neither are they such large Rivers to fatten the Land : but all their Crop depends on Seasons of Rains only, to moisten the Earth : and when those Seasons fail, as they do very often, then they can have no Crop at all. Sometimes they have little or no Rain in three or four Years, and then they perish at a lamentable rate. Such a Famine as this happened 2 or 3 Years before my going to *Fort St. George*, which raged so sore, that Thousands of People perished for want, and happy were they that could hold out till they got to the Sea-port Towns, where the *Europeans* lived, to sell themselves to them, though they were sure to be transported from their own Country presently. But the Famine does never rage so much at *Tonquin*, neither may their greatest Scarcity be so truly called a Famine : for in the worst of Times there is Rice, and 'tis through the Poverty of the meaner People, that so many perish or sell their Children, for they might else have Rice enough, had they Money to buy it with : and when their Rice is thus dear, all other Provisions are so proportionably.

There is a further difference between the Countries of *Malabar* and *Coromandel*, and this of *Tonquin*, that the more Rain they have there, the greater is there Blessing : but here they may have too much Rain for the lower part of the Kingdom ; but that is rare. When this happens they have Banks to keep in the Rivers and Ditches to drain the Land ; though sometimes to little purpose, when the Floods are violent, and especially if out of Season. For if the Floods come in their Seasons, though they are great, and drown all the Land, yet are they not hurtful ; but on the contrary, very beneficial, because the mud that they leave behind fattens the Land. And after all, if the low Land should be injured by the Floods, the dry Champion Land yields

yields the better increase, and helps out the other ; *An. 1688.*
as that does them also in more kindly Seasons. In
the dry Seasons the low Lands have this Advantage,
that Channels are easily cut out of the River, to
water them on each side. So that let the Season be
wet or dry, this Country seldom suffers much. In-
deed considering the Number of its Inhabitants, and
the Poverty of the major part, it is sometimes here,
as in all populous Countries, very hard with the
poor, especially the Trades-people in the large
Towns. For the Trade is very uncertain, and the
People are employed according to the number of
Ships that come thither, to fetch away their Goods :
and if but few Ships come hither, as sometimes it
happens, then the poor are ready to famish for want
of work, whereby to get a Subsistence. And not
only this, but most Silk Countries are stockt with
great Multitudes of poor People, who work cheap
and live meanly on a little Rice ; which if it is not
very cheap, as it commonly is here, the poor Peo-
ple are not able to maintain themselves.



An. 1688.



C H A P. III.

Of the Natives of Tonquin: Their Form, Disposition, Capacity, Cloaths, Buildings, Villages, Groves, Banks, Ditches, and Gardens. Of Cachao, the Capital City. Ovens to secure Goods from Fire; and other Precautions against it. The Streets of the City, the Kings Palaces, and English and Dutch Factories. An Artificial Mole above the City, to break the Force of the Land-floods. Of their Wives and Common Women. Feasts at the Graves of the Dead, and Annual Feasts: their entertaining with Betle and Arek, &c. Their Religion, Idols, Pagods, Priests, Offerings, and Prayers. Their Language and Learning. Their Mechanick Arts, Trades, Manufactures, Commodities and Traffick.

Tonquin is very populous, being thick-set with Villages; and the Natives in general are of a middle Stature, and clean limb'd. They are of a Tawny Indian colour: but I think the fairest and clearest that I ever saw of that Complexion: for you may perceive a Blush or Change of Colour in some of their Faces, on any sudden Surprise of Passion; which I could never discern in any other Indians. Their Faces are generally flattish, and of an oval Form. Their Noses and Lips are proportionable enough, and altogether graceful. Their Hair is black, long and lank, and very thick; and they wear it hanging down to their Shoulders.

Their

Their Teeth are as black as they can make them ; *An. 1688.*
for this being accounted a great Ornament, they
dye them of that Colour, and are three or four
Days doing it. They do this when they are about
twelve or fourteen Years old, both Boys and Girls :
and during all the Time of the Operation they dare
not take any Nourishment, besides Water, Chau,
or some liquid Thing, and not much of that nei-
ther, for fear, I judge, of being poyson'd by the
Dye, or Pigment. So that while this is doing they
undergo very severe Penance : but as both Sexes, so
all Qualities, the Poor as well as the rich, must be
in this Fashion : they say they should else be like
Brutes ; and that would be a great Shame to them
to be like Elephants or Dogs ; which they compare
those to that have white Teeth.

They are generally dextrous, nimble, and active,
and ingenious in any Mechanick Science they pro-
fess. This may be seen by the Multitude of fine
Silks that are made here ; and the curious Lacker-
work, that is yearly transported from thence.
They are also laborious and diligent in their Cal-
lings ; but the Country being so very populous,
many of them are extreme poor for Want of Em-
ployment : and tho' the Country is full of Silk,
and other Materials to work on, yet little is done,
but when strange Ships arrive. For 'tis the Money
and Goods that are brought hither, especially by
the *English* and *Dutch*, that puts Life into them :
for the Handicrafts Men have not Money to set
themselves to work ; and the Foreign Merchants
are therefore forced to trust them with Advance-
money, to the Value of at least a third, or half their
Goods ; and this for two or three Months or more,
before they have made their Goods, and brought
them in. So that they having no Goods ready by
them, till they have Money from the Merchant
Strangers, the Ships that trade hither must of Ne-
cessity

An. 1688. necessity stay here all the time that their Goods are making, which are commonly 5 or 6 Months.

The *Tonquinese* make very good Servants ; I think the best in *India*. For as they are generally apprehensive and docil, so are they faithful when hired, diligent and obedient. Yet they are low spirited : probably by reason of their living under an Arbitrary Government. They are patient in Labour, but in Sickness they are mightily dejected. They have one great Fault extreme common among them, which is gaming. To this they are so universally addicted, Servants and all, that neither the awe of their Masters, nor any Thing else, is sufficient to restrain them, till they have lost all they have, even their very Cloaths. This is a reigning Vice among the Eastern Nations, especially the *Chinese*, as I said in the 15th Chapter of my former Volume. And I may add, that the *Chinese* I found settled at *Tonquin*, were no less given to it than those I met with elsewhere. For after they have lost their Money, Goods and Cloaths, they will stake down their Wives and Children : and lastly, as the dearest Thing they have, will play upon tick, and mortgage their Hair upon Honour : And whatever it cost them they will be sure to redeem it. For a free *Chinese* as these are, who have fled from the *Tartars*, would be as much ashamed of short Hair, as a *Tonquinese* of white Teeth.

The Cloaths of the *Tonquinese* are made either of Silk or Cotton. The poor People and Soldiers do chiefly wear Cotton Cloath dyed to a dark tawny Colour. The rich Men and *Mandarins* commonly wear *English* Broad-Cloath : the chief Colours are red or green. When they appear before the King, they wear long Gowns which reach down to their Heels : neither may any Man appear in his presence but in such a Garb. The great Men have also long Caps made of the same that their Gowns

are

are made of: but the middle sort of Men and the *An. 1688*
poor commonly go bare-headed. Yet the Fishermen, and such Labourers as are by their Employments more exposed to the Weather, have broad-brimm'd Hats made of Reeds, Straw, or Palmeto-leaves. These Hats are as stiff as Boards, and sit not pliant to their Heads: for which reason they have Band-strings or Necklaces fastened to their Hats; which coming under their Chins are there tied, to keep their Hats fast to their Heads. These Hats are very ordinary Things; they seldom wear them but in rainy Weather. Their other Cloaths are very few and mean: a ragged pair of Breeches commonly sufficeth them. Some have bad Jackets, but neither Shirt, Stockings nor Shooes.

The *Tonquinese* Buildings are but mean. Their Houses are small and low: the Walls are either Mud, or Wattel bedawbed over: and the Roofs are thatched, and that very ill, especially in the Country. The Houses are too low to admit of Chambers: yet they have here 2 or 3 Partitions on the Ground-floor, made with a watling of Canes or Sticks, for their several uses; in each of which there is a Window to let in the light. The Windows are very small square Holes in the Walls, which they shut up at Night with a Board fitted for that Purpose. The Rooms are but meanly furnished; with a poor Bed or two (or more, according to the bigness of the Family) in the inner Room. The outer Rooms are furnished with Stools, Benches, or Chairs to sit on. There is also a Table, and on one side a little Altar, with two Incense-pots on it; nor is any House without its Altar. One of these Incense Pots has a small bundle of Rushes in it; the ends of which I always took notice had been burnt, and the fire put out. This outer Room is the place where they commonly dress their Food: yet in fair Weather they do it
as

An. 1688. cessity stay here all the time that their Goods are making, which are commonly 5 or 6 Months.

The *Tonquinese* make very good Servants ; I think the best in *India*. For as they are generally apprehensive and docil, so are they faithful when hired, diligent and obedient. Yet they are low spirited : probably by reason of their living under an Arbitrary Government. They are patient in Labour, but in Sickness they are mightily dejected. They have one great Fault extreme common among them, which is gaming. To this they are so universally addicted, Servants and all, that neither the awe of their Masters, nor any Thing else, is sufficient to restrain them, till they have lost all they have, even their very Cloaths. This is a reigning Vice among the Eastern Nations, especially the *Chinese*, as I said in the 15th Chapter of my former Volume. And I may add, that the *Chinese* I found settled at *Tonquin*, were no less given to it than those I met with elsewhere. For after they have lost their Money, Goods and Cloaths, they will stake down their Wives and Children : and lastly, as the dearest Thing they have, will play upon tick, and mortgage their Hair upon Honour : And whatever it cost them they will be sure to redeem it. For a free *Chinese* as these are, who have fled from the *Tartars*, would be as much ashamed of short Hair, as a *Tonquinese* of white Teeth.

The Cloaths of the *Tonquinese* are made either of Silk or Cotton. The poor People and Soldiers do chiefly wear Cotton Cloath dyed to a dark tawny Colour. The rich Men and *Mandarins* commonly wear *English* Broad-Cloath : the chief Colours are red or green. When they appear before the King, they wear long Gowns which reach down to their Heels : neither may any Man appear in his presence but in such a Garb. The great Men have also long Caps made of the same that their Gowns

are

are made of: but the middle sort of Men and the poor commonly go bare-headed. Yet the Fishermen, and such Labourers as are by their Employments more exposed to the Weather, have broad-brimm'd Hats made of Reeds, Straw, or Palmeto-leaves. These Hats are as stiff as Boards, and fit not pliant to their Heads: for which reason they have Band-strings or Necklaces fastened to their Hats; which coming under their Chins are there tied, to keep their Hats fast to their Heads. These Hats are very ordinary Things; they seldom wear them but in rainy Weather. Their other Cloaths are very few and mean: a ragged pair of Breeches commonly sufficeth them. Some have bad Jackers, but neither Shirt, Stockings nor Shooes.

The *Tonquinese* Buildings are but mean. Their Houses are small and low: the Walls are either Mud, or Wattel bedawbed over: and the Roofs are thatched, and that very ill, especially in the Country. The Houses are too low to admit of Chambers: yet they have here 2 or 3 Partitions on the Ground-floor, made with a watling of Canes or Sticks, for their several uses; in each of which there is a Window to let in the light. The Windows are very small square Holes in the Walls, which they shut up at Night with a Board fitted for that Purpose. The Rooms are but meanly furnished; with a poor Bed or two (or more, according to the bigness of the Family) in the inner Room. The outer Rooms are furnished with Stools, Benches, or Chairs to sit on. There is also a Table, and on one side a little Altar, with two Incense-pots on it; nor is any House without its Altar. One of these Incense Pots has a small bundle of Rushes in it; the ends of which I always took notice had been burnt, and the fire put out. This outer Room is the place where they commonly dress their Food: yet in fair Weather they do it

Villages, Groves, Banks, and Ditches.

AN. 1688. as frequently in the open Air, at their Doors, or in their Yards; as being thereby the less incommoded by Heat or Smoak.

They dwell not in lone Houses, but together in Villages: 'tis rare to see a single House by it self. The Country Villages commonly consist of twenty, thirty, or forty Houses, and are thick seated over all the Country; yet hardly to be seen till you come to their very Doors, by Reason of the Trees and Groves they are surrounded with. And 'tis as rare to see a Grove without a Village, in the low Country near the Sea, as to see a Village without a Grove: but the high Lands are full of Woods, and the Villages there stand all as in one great Forest. The Villages and Land about them do most belong to great Men, and the Inhabitants are Tenants that manure and cultivate the Ground.

The Villages in the low Land are also surrounded with great Banks and deep Ditches. These encompass the whole Grove, in which each Village stands.

The Banks are to keep the Water from overflowing their Gardens, and from coming into their Houses in the wet Time, when all the Land about them is under Water, two or three Foot deep. The Ditches or Trenches are to preserve the Water in the dry Time, with which they water their Gardens when need requires. Every Man lets Water at Pleasure, by little Drains that run inward from the Town-ditch, into his own Garden; and usually each Man's Yard or Garden is parted from his Neighbours by one of these little Drains on each Side. The Houses lie scattering up and down in the Grove; no where joining to one another, but each apart, and fenced in with a small Hedge. Every House hath a small Gate or Stile to enter into the Garden first, for the House stands in the Middle of it: and the Gardens run also from the Backside of the House

to the Town-Ditch, with its drain and hedge on each side. In the Gardens every Man has his own Fruit-trees, as Oranges, Limes, Betle; his Pumkins, Melons, Pine-apples, and a great many Herbs. In the dry Season these Grovy dwellings are very pleasant; but in the wet season they are altogether uncomfortable: for tho' fenced in thus with banks, yet are they like so many Duck-houses all wet and dirt: neither can they pass from one Village to another, but Mid-leg or to their Knees in Water, unless sometimes in Boats, which they keep for this purpose: But notwithstanding these, they are seldom out of mire and wet, even in the midst of the Village or Garden, so long as that season lasts. The Inhabitants of the higher part of the Kingdom are not troubled with such inconveniences, but live more cleanly and comfortably, forasmuch as their Land is never overflowed with Water: and tho' they live also in Villages or Towns as the former, yet they have no Occasion to surround them with banks or trenches, but lie open to the Forest.

The Capital City *Cachao*, which stands in the high Country about 80 Miles from the Sea, on the West-side of the River, and on a pretty level, yet rising Ground, lies open in the same manner, without wall, bank, or ditch. There may be in *Cachao* about 20000 Houses. The Houses are generally low, the walls of the Houses are of mud, and the covering Thatch, yet some are built with Brick, and the covering with Pan-tile. Most of these Houses have a Yard, or Back-side belonging to them. In each Yard you shall see a small arched Building made somewhat like an Oven, about six foot high, with the Mouth on the Ground. It is built from top to bottom with brick, all over daub'd thick with mud and dirt. If any House wants a Yard, they have nevertheless such a kind of Oven as this, but smaller,